

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 02756 181336Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SAB-02 SSO-00 INRE-00  
NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
/052 W

-----181349Z 108665 /47

O R 181325Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6984  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 2756

FOR AMBASSADORS BUNKER AND LINOWITZ FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652 GDS  
TAGS: PFOR PN VE  
SUBJ: PANAMA CANAL BRIEFING

REF: STATE 58084

1. PRESIDENT PEREZ DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE YOU MARCH 24.  
I WILL WORK OUT SPECIFIC SCHEDULE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER  
AS SOON AS WE HAVE YOUR EXACT ITINERARY. PRESIDENT  
INDICATED TO ME THAT JOINT BRIEFING OF HIM AND  
FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST. FOREIGN  
MINISTER WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HOST SMALL LUNCHEON FOR YOU.

2. PRESIDENT TOLD ME THAT TORRIJOS HAD GIVEN THEM  
DETAILED BRIEFING, INDLUDING SHOWING THEM PAPERS  
OF US POSITIONS. YOU CAN THEREFORE ASSUME THAT PEREZ  
HAS IN DEPTH KNOWLEDGE OF NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE, ALBEIT  
FROM PANAMANIAN POINT OF VIEW. PEREZ PREPARED  
FOR FRANK AND OPEN EXCHANGE WITH YOU. PEREZ  
ALSO TOLD ME THAT TORRIJOS KNOWS YOU ARE COMING TO  
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CARACAS AND HAS NO OBJECTION.

3. BOTH PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER ARE PREPARED  
KEEP PRE-VISIT PUBLICITY DOWN, BUT NEITHER THINK IT IS  
POSSIBLE OR DESIRABLE TO TRY CONCEAL VISIT. FOREIGN  
MINISTER BELIEVES THAT SHORT COMMUNIQUE OR STATEMENT  
OUGHT TO BE GIVEN TO THE PRESS AT CONCLUSION OF OUR

VISIT; OTHERWISE HE FEARS ALL KINDS OF UNTOWARD  
SPECULATION. I THINK HE IS RIGHT. WE COULD WORK  
OUT SOME BRIEF WORDING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER. I ASSUME  
YOU WOULD NOT WISH HAVE ANYTHING LIKE PRESS CONFERENCE.  
WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR GUIDANCE ON THIS.

4. I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE BOTH OF YOU TO STAY AT  
RESIDENCE.  
VAKY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEBRIEFINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, CANALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977CARACA02756  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770093-0555  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Message ID:** 4311eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 58084  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Date:** 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3070208  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PANAMA CANAL BRIEFING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PN, VE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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